

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL MUNICH PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 215774

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS,GW

SUBJECT: LOCKHEED AND THE FRG

1. FRG EMBASSY HAS INFORMED DEPARTMENT THAT MUNICH COURT INVOLVED IN CSU/STERN CASE PLANNING TO REQUEST JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO SERVE, THROUGH A FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT, A SUBPOENA ON JACK BLUM IN ORDER TO HAVE BLUM ANSWER QUESTIONS CONCERNING ALLEGATIONS THAT FRANZ JOSEF STRAUSS/CSU WERE INVOLVED IN TAKING LOCKHEED PAYOFFS IN THE EARLY 1960S. BLUM IS CHURCH SUBCOMMITTEE STAFFER WHO, IN EFFECT, PLAYED THE LEADING ROLE IN UNCOVERING INFORMATION WHICH LED TO PRINCE BERNHARD SCANDAL IN HOLLAND, AND WHO LOOKED INTO THE F-104 STARFIGHTER SALE TO FRG.

2. ACCORDING TO OFFICIALS IN JUSTICE, A U.S. COURT WOULD INDEED HONOR SUCH A REQUEST FROM ITS MUNICH COUNTERPART, AND THE SUBPOENA COULD BE PROPERLY SERVED. HE WOULD HAVE TO APPEAR IN THE LOCAL FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT, BUT PERHAPS NOT RPT NOT HAVE TO ANSWER ALL THE QUESTIONS POSED. THERE IS A PROVISION IN THE STATUTE WHICH ALLOWS A WITNESS TO REFUSE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS WHICH INVOLVE HIS/HER GIVING
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QUOTE PRIVILEGED INFORMATION UNQUOTE. PRESUMABLY THAT

WOULD INCLUDE INFORMATION TAKEN IN EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE, BUT IT IS NOT CLEAR IT WOULD APPLY TO INFORMATION WHICH BLUM GATHERED ON HIS TRAVELS ABROAD. THAT

DECISION, OF COURSE, WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE BY THE PRESIDING JUDGE.

3. DEPARTMENT HAS CONSULTED WITH FRG EMBASSY LEGAL ATTACHE AND EXPLAINED THAT BLUM MAY BE ABLE, UNDER THE STATUTE, TO AVOID ANSWERING ALL THE QUESTIONS. HOWEVER, THE MUNICH COURT WILL PROBABLY SUBMIT REQUEST ANYWAY. DEPARTMENT WILL KEEP EMBASSY/CONGEN FULLY INFORMED ON WHAT TRANSPIRES, BUT IT PRESENTLY DOES NOT KNOW WHEN THE REQUEST WILL BE MADE, OR WHEN BLUM MIGHT APPEAR.

4. ABOVE IS FOR YOUR INFO ONLY AND NO RPT NO PUBLIC COMMENTS SHOULD BE MADE ON THIS SUBJECT UNLESS GUIDANCE PROVIDED BY DEPARTMENT.
ROBINSON

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